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PATENT my

Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7937.0002-04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

John KEANE et al.

Serial No.: 09/832,341

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: April 11, 2001

Examiner: Unknown

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR  
MANAGING VIRTUAL  
ADDRESSES FOR VIRTUAL  
NETWORKS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this  
application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please replace the first paragraph with the following:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/196,297, entitled "NETWORK ARCHITECTURE, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS," filed on April 12, 2000, the disclosure of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/814,178, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING AND CONFIGURING VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS," filed March 22, 2001, Attorney

al  
LAW OFFICES  
ECAN, HENDERSON,  
RABOW, GARRETT,  
DUNN, L.L.P.  
501 STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-406-4000

~~07937-0002~~, which is also expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The present invention also relates to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,339, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PARTNERS IN VIRTUAL NETWORKS," filed April 11, 2001, ~~Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-04~~; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,363, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR HAIRPINS IN VIRTUAL NETWORKS," filed April 11, 2001, ~~Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-02~~; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,345, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING NETWORK SERVICES USING AT LEAST ONE PROCESSOR INTERFACING A BASE NETWORK," filed April 11, 2001, ~~Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-06~~; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,346, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ENABLING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN A PROCESSOR AND A NETWORK OPERATIONS CENTER," filed April 11, 2001, ~~Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-07~~; and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,353, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR AN EXTRANET," filed April 11, 2001, ~~Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-09~~; all of which are expressly incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and concurrently filed herewith the present application.

## REMARKS

**Applicants request entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination.**